



US006400039B1

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Wobben**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,400,039 B1**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 4, 2002**

(54) **WIND POWER PLANT WITH A  
TRANSFORMER FIXED TO THE TOWER**

(76) **Inventor:** Aloys Wobben, Argestrasse 19,  
D-26607 Aurich (DE)

(\*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) **Appl. No.:** **09/647,857**

(22) **PCT Filed:** **Apr. 13, 1999**

(86) **PCT No.:** **PCT/EP99/02461**

§ 371 (c)(1),  
(2), (4) **Date:** **Nov. 22, 2000**

(87) **PCT Pub. No.:** **WO99/53199**

**PCT Pub. Date:** **Oct. 21, 1999**

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Apr. 14, 1998 (DE) ..... 198 16 483

(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... **F03D 11/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **290/44; 290/55**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... **290/43, 44, 54,  
290/55**

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

4,025,824 A \* 5/1977 Cheatham ..... 174/45 R

4,217,501 A \* 8/1980 Allison ..... 290/44  
4,291,233 A \* 9/1981 Kirschbaum ..... 290/1 C  
4,357,542 A \* 11/1982 Kirschbaum ..... 174/DIG. 15  
4,565,929 A \* 1/1986 Baskin et al. .... 174/DIG. 15  
5,244,569 A \* 9/1993 Di Amico ..... 210/163  
5,315,159 A \* 5/1994 Gribnau ..... 290/55  
6,157,088 A \* 12/2000 Bendix ..... 290/44  
2001/0002757 A1 \* 6/2001 Honda et al. .... 290/55

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

DE 44-36-197 \* 4/1996  
JP 07-122438 \* 5/1995

\* cited by examiner

*Primary Examiner*—Nicholas Ponomarenko

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—David V. Carlson; Seed IP  
Law Group PLLC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The invention concerns a wind power installation comprising a pylon, a foundation for the pylon and an energy transfer unit for transfer of the current generated to the power network. The wind power installation according to the invention is distinguished in that the weight of the energy transfer unit is carried by the foundation of the pylon of the wind power installation.

**6 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet**

